

### **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 (Currently amended): An antifungal composition for the treatment of a fungal infection of a member selected from the group consisting of human nails comprising, tissue surrounding said nails, and tissue underlying said nails, or treatment of symptoms associated with said fungal infection in an animal in need of said treatment comprising:  
water; an aqueous solution of a  
an effective amount of a topical pharmaceutically acceptable fluoride ion donor compound;  
and in combination with  
a wetting agent, the composition having a pH ranging from about 2.8 to about 3.5  
whereby when said composition is applied to said nail, or said tissue surrounding said nail  
or said tissue underlying said nail, said composition penetrates around and under said  
nail and into underlying and surrounding tissues so that said fungal infection or  
symptoms associated therewith are effectively ameliorated.
- 2 (Original): The composition of claim 1 wherein the fluoride donor compound is selected from the group consisting of stannous fluoride, stannic fluoride, hydrogen fluoride and dilute hydrofluoric acid.
- 3 (Original): The composition of claim 1 wherein the wetting agent is an alcohol.
- 4 (Original): The composition of claim 3 wherein the alcohol is selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol and isopropanol.
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- 6 (Original): The composition of claim 1 comprising up to about 20 weight percent wetting agent.

7 (Original): The composition of claim 2 comprising from about 15 to about 20 weight percent wetting agent.

8 (Original): The composition of claim 3 comprising up to about 20 weight percent alcohol.

9 (Currently amended): A method for treating fungal growth areas proximal to a ~~human~~ nail in an animal, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a composition of claim 1 ~~an aqueous solution substantially saturated with a~~  
~~fluorine ion donor compound and comprising up to about 20 weight percent of a~~  
~~wetting agent and a pH ranging from about 2.8 to about 3.5; and~~  
periodically topically applying said composition to the fungal growth areas.

10 (Original): The method of claim 9 wherein the fluorine ion donor compound is selected from the group consisting of stannous fluoride, stannic fluoride and hydrogen fluoride or dilute hydrofluoric acid.

11 (Original): The method of claim 9 wherein the wetting agent is selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol and isopropanol.

12 (Original): The method of claim 9 wherein the solution comprises from about 15 to about 20 weight percent wetting agent.

13 (Original): The method of claim 9 wherein the aqueous solution comprises from about 15 to about 20 weight percent alcohol as the wetting agent.

14 (New): The composition of claim 1 further comprising a topically acceptable buffer.

15. (New): The composition of claim 1 having a pH of about 2.8 to about 3.5.

16 (New): A method for abating fungal growth in an under skin proximal to a nail of an animal, the method comprising the steps of:  
providing an aqueous solution that is deleterious to fungal growth without damaging nails or surrounding tissues, said solution comprising a fluoride donor compound; and  
periodically applying said aqueous solution to the fungal growth areas until said fungal growth abates.